

EFFECTIVE

May 1, 2010.

SUBJECT**Juvenile Guardianship Assistance Policy Additions and Clarifications.**

1. The policies from Juvenile Guardianship Assistance Interim Bulletin 2010-001 have been added to the corresponding manual items.
2. The requirement that a child live with the prospective guardian for 6 consecutive months **immediately prior** to certification for juvenile guardianship assistance has been changed. The word **immediately** has been removed.

GDM 600**Safe and Timely Interstate Placement of Children**

Policy has been added regarding the timely completion of interstate home studies.

Reason: Title IV-E state plan requirements.

**GDM 600 and GDM
715****Fingerprinting and Background Checks**

Policy citing foster care manual item FOM 922-1 has replaced the reference to FOM 722-3.

Reason: Clarification of policy.

GDM 715**Case Plan Requirements**

Policy regarding required case plan documentation for sibling visit arrangements has been added. When siblings are not placed together, the case plan must include documentation of the arrangements for sibling visitation or other interaction, unless there is documentation that the visits or interaction would be detrimental to the safety or well-being of any of the siblings.

Reason: Title IV-E state plan requirements.

Guardianship Assistance Eligibility

The requirement that the child has resided in the home of the prospective guardian for at least 6 consecutive months **immediately** prior to the eligibility determination has been changed. The word **immediately** has been removed. This allows for a child who previously lived with the prospective guardian for 6 consecutive months to be eligible for guardianship assistance. For a title IV-E funded child, the prospective guardian must be a guardian who was a licensed foster care provider during the 6 months.

An example of children who may qualify under this change are those moving from a residential treatment setting to guardianship and previously lived with the licensed prospective guardian for 6 consecutive months.

Reason: Title IV-E guidance.

Eligibility for Title IV-E Guardianship Assistance Payments

The following wording has been added to the title IV-E guardianship assistance payment section:

Eligibility for title IV-E funded guardianship assistance payments requires that the child be eligible for title IV-E **foster care maintenance payments** while residing for at least 6 consecutive months in the home of the prospective relative guardian.

Reason: Title IV-E state plan requirements.

GDM 740

Agreements

The following agreement provisions have been added to policy:

The guardianship agreement is in effect regardless of the state in which the guardian and child reside.

The agreement includes procedures by which the guardian may apply for additional services as needed.

Reason: Title IV-E state plan requirements.

School Attendance

Policy regarding the full-time school enrollment requirement for children who receive juvenile guardianship assistance has been added.

Reason: Title IV-E state plan requirements.

**MANUAL
MAINTENANCE
INSTRUCTIONS**

Changed Items (content changes) ...

GDM 600

GDM 715

GDM 740